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Extensions of ongoing country programmes

Note by the secretariat

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, this note informs the Executive Board of the one-year extensions of the following country and area programmes approved by the Executive Director: Azerbaijan, Chile, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Palestinian children and women, Serbia, Somalia and Uruguay.

The note further presents the reasons for the proposed two-year extensions of the country programmes for the Philippines and Mozambique, which the Executive Board is requested to approve.

Draft decision

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the one-year extensions of the country and area programmes approved by the Executive Director, as indicated in table 1, for Azerbaijan, Chile, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Palestinian children and women, Serbia, Somalia and Uruguay;

2. *Approves* the two-year extensions for the Philippines and Mozambique, as presented in table 2.

* Reissued for technical reasons.
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Table 1
Extensions of country programmes approved by the Executive Director in 2009

Country	*Original CPD period*	*Year proposed for extension*	*Reason for extension*
Azerbaijan	2005–2009	2010	Harmonization with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), extended to align with the Government's State Programme on Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development, 2008–2015.
Chile	2005-2009	2010	Harmonization with the UNDAF.
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	2007–2009	2010	Harmonization with the extended UNDAF, to benefit from new census and nutrition data.
Islamic Republic of Iran	2005-2009	2010	Harmonization with the extended UNDAF, due to request of the Government to align it with its new National Development Plan.
Serbia[1]	2005-2009	2010	Harmonization with the UNDAF.
Somalia	2008-2009	2010	Harmonization with the United Nations Transition Plan for Somalia.
Uruguay	2005-2009	2010	Harmonization with the UNDAF.
Area programme for Palestinian children and women[2]	2008-2009	2010	Harmonization with the Palestinian Reform and Development Plan (2008-2010) implemented by the Palestinian Authority. In the absence of an UNDAF, United Nations agencies have developed a United Nations Medium-term Response Plan focusing on development issues.

[1] The country programme of cooperation for Serbia 2005–2009 was originally approved by the Executive Board in 2005 as part of the country programme of cooperation for Serbia and Montenegro (E/ICEF/2004/P/L.16/Rev.1), including Kosovo. Subsequently a country programme of cooperation for the Republic of Montenegro 2007–2009 (E/ICEF/2006/P/L.60/Rev.1) was approved by the Executive Board in 2007.

[2] The area programme serves Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

Country	*Original programme period*	*Years proposed for extension*	*Reason for extension*		
			In-country development	*United Nations harmonization*	*Implementation or other issues*
Mozambique	2007-2009	2010-2011	Following the national elections, scheduled for October 2009, the Government of Mozambique is expected to develop a new Five-Year Plan (2010–2014), which will feature components of the second Action Plan for the Reduction of Absolute Poverty, 2006–2009 (PARPA II). Meanwhile, the Government extended the current PARPA II to ensure consistency in the development approach and to ensure the continued commitment of the donor community.	Following the extension of PARPA II, the United Nations system in Mozambique, in consultation with the Government, has extended the current UNDAF by two years, through end-2011	The country programme will continue with the strategies and approaches implemented during the first three years: (a) focus on the most vulnerable and marginalized, particularly orphaned children and those in remote or rural areas, to reduce disparities; (b) institutional capacity development of partners to ensure high-quality service delivery, particularly at the sub-national level; (c) evidence-based advocacy for children's rights to leverage resources for children and policy dialogue; (d) mainstreaming of HIV/AIDS and gender; (e) strengthening of emergency preparedness and response in line with the Core Commitments for Children in Emergencies.

E/ICEF/2009/P/L.32

Country	Original programme period	Years proposed for extension	Reason for extension: In-country development	Reason for extension: United Nations harmonization	Reason for extension: Implementation or other issues
Philippines	2005-2009	2010-2011	Following the national elections, scheduled for May 2010, the Government of the Philippines will adopt a new development plan to succeed the current Medium-Term Philippines Development Plan (2004-2010). The Government has requested an extension of the current UNDAF by two years, through end-2011.	With concurrence of the Regional Directors Team, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF have requested a two-year extension of the respective country programmes in order to align them with the extended UNDAF.	While the country programme will not witness any major changes, the midterm review recommended reducing the focus areas of UNICEF cooperation and increasing support to national-level programmes. The programme performance assessment in late 2008 recommended strengthening UNICEF engagement in national policy development and aligning the programme more clearly with other major partners. The two-year extension will therefore focus on enhancing partnerships, in alignment with national development plans, to strengthen capacity to achieve the Millennium Development Goals in those areas where progress is most lacking for children and to introduce more major shifts in the next country programme.